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VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

To Mr. PURDIE.

SIR,

IN this enlightened age, whoever ſhall go about to impoſe ſhadows on mankind for ſubſtances, and names for things, muſt be ſomething elſe than modeſt, and have other views than thoſe of fairneſs and honeſty. The preſent miniſtry, notorious as they have rendered themſelves for their attachment to thoſe arbitrary principles in government in oppoſition to which our glorious anceſtors fought, bled, and died, and by whoſe ſpirit and wiſdom the liberty we enjoy has been reſcued from former Britiſh tyrants, theſe miniſters, after repeatedly rejecting with diſdain the moſt modeſt and preſſing applications from every aſſembly on the continent for redreſs of intolerable grievances, after having vainly endeavoured, *by force of arms*, to enſlave North America, expect now to effect, *by fraud and diviſion*, what their *arms* and their *arms* have failed to accompliſh; but let us, my countrymen, be on our guard againſt their deluſive arts, let us continue to purſue that manly, ſenſible, and united conduct, which has hitherto baffled our inſidious enemies, and which, perſevered in, muſt finally accompliſh the political ſalvation of America. The miniſtry ſay, they will not treat with the General Congreſs, becauſe they are an illegal body. If that great luminary of law, lord COKE, be right, when he ſays, in the firſt part of his inſtitutes, "nothing that is contrary to reaſon is lawful," the converſe of the propoſition muſt alſo be true, *that nothing can be unlawful that is reaſonable*. The appointment of a General Congreſs being founded on reaſon, cannot therefore be illegal; and this we ſhall find eſtabliſhed, as well by the principles of juſt reaſoning, as by the practice of our anceſtors. It is agreed, by the beſt writers, that the end of government is ſecurity of property, and perſonal liberty; that kings and governours being appointed by the people for theſe purpoſes, if they forfeit their truſt, by attempting the ruin both of property and publick liberty, the government is at an end, and power reverts to the people, who gave it. The illuſtrious LOCKE, and the glorious Revolution, inconteſtibly eſtabliſhed theſe principles; and the government of England is now agreed to be founded on reſiſtance to arbitrary ſway. Let us apply this doctrine to North America, and we ſhall find that, for a ſeries of twelve years, the property and liberty of every perſon here has been invaded by a variety of acts of parliament, and proceedings of government, for taxing us without our conſent; for depriving us of trial by jury, in caſes both of life and property; for tranſporting us to England, to be tried for ſuppoſed offences committed here; for greatly extending the limits of one of the provinces, and eſtabliſhing an arbitrary government therein; and finally, by attempting to enforce theſe deſtructive meaſures by the ſword; contrary to the plaineſt principles of the conſtitution, of juſtice, of compact, and the uſage of an hundred and ſixty years, or the firſt ſettlement of North America by Engliſhmen; and in utter neglect and contempt of repeated, modeſt petitions, from every Houſe of Aſſembly on this continent. So atrocious an abuſe of power, aiming at the ruin of more than three millions of people now exiſting, and the many more millions that are involved in future generations, juſtified the people of North America, upon the beſt eſtabliſhed maxims of the conſtitution, in the adoption of ſuch meaſures as were fitted to enſure the publick ſafety, and ſecure the end of all government. A Congreſs was therefore appointed, conſiſting of delegates from the repreſentatives of the people in every colony, that, by a union of their councils and ſtrength, the common ſafety might be effectually obtained. Thoſe who deny this proceeding to be legal do plainly deny the legality of the Revolution, and that title by which the king of England now holds his crown; for when the people of England were abuſed by ſimilar exertions of deſpotick power, they aſſembled by their repreſentatives in 1688, not in Parliament, but in Convention (or Congreſs if you will) and determined to baniſh the tyrant STUART from the throne, and place thereon our glorious deliverer king WILLIAM, in ſucceſſion to whom the preſent king now ſways the ſceptre of that country. Thus you ſee, my countrymen, the appointment of a Congreſs is founded in reaſon, ſelf-preſervation, and the practice of England; but the preſent Tory miniſtry, and their ſecret directors, object to this proceeding, not only becauſe it is agreeable to the pureſt principles of liberty and the Revolution, both which they deteſt, but becauſe the Congreſs, by their wiſe, ſpirited councils, and conduct, have effectually baffled the cabinet ſcheme for enſlaving America. When lord NORTH propoſed his *clumſy plan* of accommodation laſt winter, he declared in the Houſe of Commons his *deſign to conquer by dividing us*; and, after an open declaration of his purpoſe, the governours were directed to propoſe it to the different aſſemblies. But America diſdained the *vulgar artifice*, and referred him to that body (the General Congreſs) in which the councils of America were centred, and which had already conducted the general buſineſs to general ſatisfaction. It muſt be evident, to every thinking man, that if thirteen different treaties are ſet up, hopes, rewards, terrours, and all the infinite machinery of undue influence, may, and will, be practiſed in negotiation, to ſet the different colonies at variance, and thus, by diviſion, to conquer and ruin America. It is very remarkable, that the only two colonies (New York and New Jerſey) that caught at the miniſterial bait, of ſeparate aſſembly application, after the riſing of Congreſs in 1774, had their petitions moſt contemptuouſly rejected, thus deſervedly meeting that fate which will conſtantly attend departure from a wiſe, firm, and united conduct. Theſe inſtances, together with the preſent proceeding of adminiſtration, prove inconteſtibly, that they mean to diſunite us, and nothing elſe. The General Congreſs, in their declaration of laſt ſummer, moſt ſolemnly declare, "For the protection of our property, acquired ſolely by the honeſt induſtry of our forefathers and ourſelves, againſt violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We ſhall lay them down when hoſtilities ſhall ceaſe on the part of the aggreſſors, and all danger of their being renewed ſhall be removed, and not before." If miniſtry mean peace, why do they not accept this offer, and recall their fleets and armies? Yet you find they are increaſing both, in every part of North America. More ſhips of war, and ſoldiers come and coming! We muſt therefore give up every claim to policy or prudence if we doubt a moment of their deſign to puſh the war againſt us, under the fallacious guiſe of a treaty. If they had the ſmalleſt pretenſions to ſincerity, or decency, would they offer a brave and free people terms of accommodation at the points of bayonets? Would they, after cruelly injuring and abuſing us, beyond the example of former times, inſultingly commiſſion perſons to receive our ſubmiſſions, and repentance for defending rights which GOD, reaſon, and compact, had given us? Would they content themſelves with repealing two or three acts only, of thoſe numerous ſtatutes with which they have afflicted us, ſtill retaining the principle with the acts for taxing us without our conſent? No, my countrymen, believe me, and obſerve what the great patriot lord CHATHAM thought, when he propoſed to mark ſincerity by a removal of fleets and armies from North America, and by the repeal of *all* the obnoxious acts. Until you ſee this done, there will be no ſincerity in the proffered treaty. The deſign is evidently to divide, in the firſt place, and in the ſecond, to gain time for the levying and tranſporting armies for our ſubduction; whilſt, under the deluſive proſpect of accommodation, their forces now here are ſuffered to remain unmoleſted, to be inured to the climate, and the timely vigorous efforts of America delayed and fruſtrated. When therefore they offer to treat with aſſemblies ſeparately, refer them to the General Congreſs, and in the mean-time preſs the war with manly vigour and perſeverance ſo long as hoſtile armies remain in your country; and hoſtile they muſt be if they remain at all. Common ſenſe, common ſafety, honour, and the intereſt of the preſent and future generations, all loudly call on you thus to act; for if the miniſtry are in earneſt for reſtoring peace, and doing juſtice, the united voice of America, in Congreſs, will moſt certainly and cordially embrace the offer.

SOMERS.

LONDON, *Nov.* 13.

IT is ſtrongly reported, that the court of France has preſented a *ſtinging* memorial to our ſecretary of ſtate, upon the taking Ruſſian troops into Britiſh pay. This memorial is conceived in terms that have ſtruck our adminiſtration with aſtoniſhment, as they conſider it as a prelude to a war with the houſe of Bourbon.

Nov. 20. On Wedneſday the Houſe agreed that an addreſs ſhould be preſented to his majeſty, that he will be pleaſed to give directions that the petition preſented to him from the General Congreſs in America, by governour Penn, and Arthur Lee, eſqrs. ſhould be laid before them.

Wedneſday the Houſe of Commons reſolved, that the ſum of 47,400l. 12s. be granted for defraying the charge of raiſing and paying one regiment of Scotch Highlanders, to conſiſt of two battalions of 1000 men each, for the ſervice of the year 1776.

Nov. 22. Pruſſia, as well as France, have remonſtrated againſt Ruſſian troops being ſent to America.

Nov. 24. The chevalier D'Eon is now expected to leave England every hour, to return to the French court; immediately on which, ſome moſt extraordinary anecdotes, relative to the two powers, will come out, to the aſtoniſhment of all Europe.

Our miniſtry are alarmed, and with great reaſon, at the late change in the war department in France. The count de St. Germaine, who is now the miniſter, is a ſoldier, and poſſeſſes, beſides being an able ſtateſman, conſiderable military talents. It was by his advice the marſhal duke de Richlieu pent up the late duke of Cumberland laſt war, and reduced him to the convention of Cloſterſeven. There ſeems to be little doubt, then, that this able ſtateſman, who is ſo accurate a judge of national events, and who has, through life, ſo fortunately availed himſelf of them, will not be an idle looker on at our quarrels with America, but, the moment he finds the balance of victory likely to declare for them, will ſtrike ſuch a ſtroke, as, from the preſent *pacifick* declarations of our cabinet, they are not at all prepared for.

Wedneſday ſeveral more large ſhips were contracted for, by agency, for the tranſport ſervice; which are to go to Ireland, to take in proviſions there for the uſe of the ſoldiers at Boſton.

Extract of a letter from Portſmouth, *Nov.* 22.

"Sailed the Triton man of war, Lutwidge, for Halifax, with ſhipwrights, &c.

"A few days ago 8000l. in foreign ſpecie, was ſeized by information, on board the Boreas man of war at Spithead, by an officer of the cuſtoms, conſigned to a gentleman in Boſton."

Dec. 6. When the order of the day was read yeſterday, in the Houſe of Commons, for going into a committee of the whole Houſe on the bill for prohibiting all trade and intercourſe with the colonies in rebellion, &c. a member (mr. Dempſter, we believe) moved, that it be an inſtruction given by the Houſe, before the ſpeaker leaves the chair, to the ſaid committee, to accept certain clauſes, by way of amendment, and to divide the bill into diſtinct parts, or to make two bills out of one, in its preſent form. Debates aroſe upon this propoſition, which it ſeems is called, by ſome gentlemen, a method of *frittering away a bill;* and adminiſtration not being diſpoſed to ſubmit to this operation on their *favourite child*, a diviſion followed at about 5 o'clock, and the numbers were, againſt the motion 75, for it 34. Lord North, it is ſaid, in order to abate the rigour of this act, ſo far as it reſpects the ſeizing the ſhips of the Americans, or any ſhips trading to or from their ports, ſaid, that proviſion was made in the 50th clauſe, page 23d, for giving them time to avoid it, by a proper return to their allegiance; but if that was not thought ſufficient, gentlemen might propoſe ſuch other proviſions as they judged proper to come in under that clauſe. We therefore think it proper to lay the clauſe before the publick, as it now ſtands, that the friends of America may now have an opportunity to exert themſelves to procure the filling up the blanks with ſuch diſtant dates as may give them all poſſible time to reflect on the part they are to act: "And be it "farther enacted, by the authority afore-"ſaid, that this act, ſo far as the ſame "relates to the capture and forfeiture of "ſhips and veſſels belonging to the inha-"bitants of the above-mentioned colo-"nies, ſhall commence, and be in force, "from and after the , and ſo far "as the ſame relates to the capture and "forfeiture of all ſhips and veſſels that "ſhall be found going in or at any of the "ſaid colonies, or bound and trading from "any port or place in the ſame, from "and after the , and ſhall "continue to be in force ſo long as any of "the ſaid colonies ſhall remain in a ſtate "of rebellion and diſobedience." The blanks are propoſed to be filled up with the dates of March 1ſt, and April 1ſt, and all the indulgence likely to be procured will be a prolongation of time before the ſeizures are to take place.

Yeſterday the Lower Aſſembly proceeded on the bill to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the North American colonies, during the continuance of the preſent rebellion in the ſaid colonies. Debates ariſing, expected to ſit late. The gallery door was locked, and none admitted but peers or members.

A plan is now under conſideration, for all criminals in Great Britain, ſentenced for tranſportation, to be ſent to the Britiſh ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa.

Extract of a letter from Goſport, *Dec.* 1.

"It is ſaid here, that general Gage is to return to Boſton. The ſhip he came home in is come into the harbour."

Extract of a letter from Chatham, *Dec.* 3.

"Orders are received at the commiſſioners office here for the ſail-makers of this dockyard to work double days, in order to give the greateſt deſpatch in making ſails for the ſhips that are fitting at this port for America.

"The Milford, of 28 guns, commanded by John Bur, eſq; is nearly fitted, and will ſail from hence in a few days for America.

"The Carysfort, of 28 guns, is put into commiſſion at this port, and the command given to Robert Fanſhaw, eſq. She is alſo to go to America."

Twelve tranſports, bound to America, are waiting in the Downs for a favourable wind.

An expreſs is ſaid to be come from lord Grantham, our ambaſſadour at Madrid, that the Spaniards were ſending a powerful naval armament to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies.

Yeſterday a full board of ordnance was held, at the breaking up of which orders were given for ſever l hundred tuns of ordnance ſtores to be got ready as ſoon as poſſible.

CANTERBURY, *Nov.* 17. The prince of Wales's third regiment of dragoon guards, now quartered here, have met with great ſucceſs in recruiting. They are to go to America with Burgoyne's and the 9th of dragoons, as ſoon as complete.

ST. JOHN's (ANTIGUA) *Jan.* 17.

THIS morning, early, four companies of his majeſty's 55th regiment, who were drove off the American coaſt, and put into this iſland in great diſtreſs, marched through the town of St. John's, from Engliſh harbour to Rat iſland barracks, where they are to reſt and refreſh themſelves, until a veſſel is got ready to carry them to Boſton.

The ſhips of war on their different ſtations, round this and the neighbouring iſlands, are daily diſtreſſing the Americans, by making captures of their veſſels employed in their proſcribed trade with the French iſlands, &c.

NEW YORK, *February* 19.

WEDNESDAY laſt his excellency our governour was pleaſed to appoint Whitehead Hicks, eſq; one of the judges of the ſupreme court of this province.

Mr. Hicks having at the ſame time ſurrendered the office of mayor of this city, his excellency was pleaſed to appoint David Mathews, eſq; to that office, and laſt Friday they were both qualified to act in their reſpective ſtations.

His majeſty's ſhip the Phenix, of 40 guns, capt. Parker, ſailed for Sandy Hook laſt Saturday morning; and about 2 o'clock the ſame day, capt. Vandeput, in the Aſia, of 64 guns, got under ſail, in company with the ſhip Dutcheſs of Gordon, a ſhip loaded with ſalt, and two ſloops (the three latter lately ſeized by the men of war) but it being half flood, the Aſia got a ground off Whitehall, and did not float till near high water. She now lies in our bay, with the Dutcheſs and her prizes.

Since our laſt, numbers of men have arrived in this city from Dutcheſs county and Connecticut, ſo that we now muſter about 3000 troops, and more are daily expected.

PHILADELPHIA, *Feb.* 29.

The following paragraph is taken from the London Gazetteer *of Dec* 6.

MOST of the American governours will be appointed commiſſioners, and the reaſon of ſending ſo many commiſſioners (36) to America, is, to treat with each province ſeparately about an accommodation, and ſo deſpatch the buſineſs. They are not now to treat with the Congreſs, as was firſt reported.

Extract of a letter from a captain of a veſſel, dated St. Kitt's, *January* 18, *after a paſſage of* 38 *days from* London.

"No veſſel was permitted to ſail for America, at my departure, but what was employed by government, for which reaſon many veſſels were laid up in Greenland dock. The bill for ſeizing all American property had paſſed the Houſe of Lords."

A letter from St. Euſtatia, dated January 28th, 1776, ſays: "Several tranſport ſhips bound to Boſton, with proviſions, and a number of ſoldiers on board, not exceeding 500, having been blown off the coaſt, are put into Antigua. On the admiral's hearing of Dunmore's ſituation. they were laſt Tueſday ordered to Norfolk, in Virginia. I have taken the firſt opportunity of communicating this intelligence, that the Virginians may have notice in due time, and give them a proper reception."

On Monday laſt the rev. doctor SMITH delivered an animated and pathetick oration, in the German Calviniſt church, in honour of the late general MONTGOMERY, and the brave officers who fell with him before Quebeck, to a very crowded aſſembly, conſiſting of the principal ladies of the city, the Congreſs, General Aſſembly, Committees of Safety and Inſpection, the profeſſors and ſtudents of the college, and the four battalions of city militia. Several pieces of ſolemn muſick were performed before and after the oration, which added much to its entertainment.

WILLIAMSBURG, *March* 8.

WE have intelligence that the jail diſtemper rages with great violence on board lord Dunmore's fleet, particularly among the negro forces, upwards of 150 of whom, it is poſitively affirmed, have died within a ſhort time, and who,

as faſt as they expire, are tumbled into the deep, to regale the ſharks, which it ſeems ſwarm thereabouts, and no doubt keep as ſharp a look-out, for all ſuch ſorts of proviſion, as the land animals do for freſh pork, good mutton, poultry, &c.

Twelve deſerters have come into Suffolk within theſe few days, from the fleet at Norfolk, viz. a ſerjeant and corporal, with five marines, and five common ſailors, who all confirm the miſerable ſituation of the people on board, occaſioned by the jail fever breaking out among them; and one of the marines declared, that he firmly believed his captain would come on ſhore likewiſe, had he a good opportunity.

Laſt Tueſday ſe'nnight, capt. William Deane (ſome time ago ſent priſoner to Boſton by lord Dunmore, but retaken by capt. Manly of the Lee privateer) had the misfortune to have his veſſel ſeized, the ſloop John, from Cape Anne, about ſix miles below York, by one of the miniſterial tenders. She was loaded with 3000 buſhels of ſalt, 1000 wt. of raiſins, 500 do. of chocolate, a few boxes of lemons and candles, &c. &c. The captain, with his people, eſcaped in their boat; and, had it not been calm, and the tide againſt him, he would have ſaved his veſſel likewiſe.

We have undoubted intelligence, that 60 tuns of ſaltpetre, 15 tuns of gunpowder, and 1300 ſtand of arms, are lately landed at Philadelphia, and more daily expected.

We have the pleaſure to aſſure the publick, that the recruiting ſervice in this colony has met with the greateſt ſucceſs, all the nine regiments being at this time nearly completed, with able-bodied men; and there is not the ſmalleſt doubt, ſhould the war continue (which, from appearances, is moſt likely to be the caſe) but our troops may be increaſed to any number the legiſlature ſhall judge neceſſary for the ſupport of the rights of America, as well as to repel every hoſtile invaſion.

A number of troops have lately arrived in this city, and more are daily expected.

At this time, the ſaltpetre works at Warwick, Peterſburg, and Blandford, produce full 2000 wt. per day; and two other works, now erecting on James river, will increaſe the quantity to upwards of 350 wt. per day. A powder mill is alſo erecting, which, when completed, will amply ſupply this colony with that neceſſary article. N. B. The above intelligence is from undoubted authority, and may be depended upon.

Yeſterday 32 members of the Aſſembly met at the Capitol, purſuant to adjournment; which not being a ſufficient number to proceed on buſineſs, and no repreſentative of the King appearing, they thought proper farther to adjourn, to the FIRST THURSDAY IN MAY NEXT, when that honourable body will meet, as well as the General Convention, for the diſcuſſion of ſundry important matters, tending to the ſafety and well-being of the colony, and of America in general.

Deaths.] CARTER BURWELL, eſq; at London, who ſome time ago went there for the recovery of his health. He was the youngeſt ſon of the late col. Carter Burwell, and died in his 21ſt year, after a lingering illneſs.

Mrs. ELIZABETH CHISWELL, relict of the late col. John Chiſwell, at William Nelſon, eſqr's, in Caroline. She died in her 54th year, and was a moſt amiable lady: From her door, the needy were never ſent empty away.

At Richmond, Mrs. LUCY DANDRIDGE, exhibiting to weeping ſpectators that a well ſpent life inſpires the moſt delicate minds with fortitude to view the approach of death with calmneſs, and meet the ſhock without a groan. Her life was a life of innocence, and piety; her death ſerene, as the ſweeteſt ſleep. Mourn not for her, ye that knew her; but imitate her virtues, and let your latter end be like hers! The ſympathetick tear, however, is due for the diſtreſs of her diſconſolate parents, inconſolable huſband, and helpleſs infant.

Mr. PURDIE,

THE Tories, and tools of adminiſtration, are conſtantly crying out, that the Congreſs is aiming at independence, and pretend now that they would wiſh to ſee America put into the ſituation it was in the year 1763; I ſay pretend *now*, becauſe now they find it impoſſible to bring America to the abject ſtate of ſlavery they were willing to reduce her, and have no hopes of ſucceeding in their ſcheme of deſpotiſm unleſs they can take advantage of our love of the Britiſh conſtitution, and attachment to Great Britain, by alarming us with the thoughts of a ſeparation, by raiſing a diſtruſt in the Congreſs, and fears of an unſettled and imperfect republick, or, at the ſame time, by lulling us into a ſtate of ſecurity, and flattering us with an expectation of an accommodation. That the miniſtry, whatever lord North may be ſuppoſed to mean, by ſomething he ſaid to that effect, do not wiſh to ſee us reſtored to the ſituation we were in 1763, muſt be evident from their not embracing the offers of the Congreſs to accept of thoſe terms; for, if they deſired it, if they preferred peace to war, and were willing to put a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of their fellow-ſubjects, they would have eagerly embraced the petition of the Congreſs, and made it the baſis of an honourable negotiation, which muſt ſpeedily have brought about a happy and laſting reconciliation. But the king, who had early imbibed principles of deſpotiſm, and who has found means to make himſelf abſolute, even in England, by means of a venal parliament, and a ſervile army of ſycophants, and who has lately taſted the ſweets (it was but a taſte) of an abſolute monarch, in his kingdom of QUEBECK, was determined not to admit it as a baſis of a negotiation, ſcorning to treat with *rebels*; and declaring, from his throne, that we meant but to deceive, and "lull "him into a ſecurity, by profeſſions of "attachment and loyalty, whilſt we "were preparing for war." And from [illegible] ſuppoſe that we had ſo far got the ſtart of him in our preparations that he was obliged to call in foreign troops to his aſſiſtance. His majeſty does, it is true, moſt graciouſly ſays, "it may not be amiſs to empow-"er certain perſons to pardon ſuch offend-[illegible] from their "evil ways;" but he ſays nothing like what his tools here have ſaid. Nor can there be the leaſt foundation for the report which was lately ſo induſtriouſly propagated, viz. that ſeveral of the obnoxious acts were repealed, and that commiſſioners were on their way to Philadelphia to treat with the Congreſs. Whoever will read the vote of the Houſe of Commons on lord North's motion of November 28th, and the reſolve of the Iriſh Houſe of Commons on Friday the 21ſt of November, and will alſo conſider the great preparations England is making for war, the arrival of men of war with tranſports here, and knows that lord Dunmore is actually intrenching at Tucker's mills, that he is daily recruiting his army of ſlaves, that there has lately been a dangerous commotion in North Carolina, and that the Engliſh commander of Detroit has inſtigated ſome Indians to make an attack on our frontiers, who have actually ſcalped ſeveral people, I ſay, whoever knows and conſiders theſe things, muſt ſee that the ſtory of commiſſioners, repeal, and accommodation, was intended but to lull us into ſecurity, or to inſult and mock us. It is therefore high time to look to ourſelves, and if we cannot enjoy the privileges of Engliſhmen, when connected with them, let us inſtantly break off thoſe fetters of affection which have hitherto bound us to them; and if England calls in foreign aſſiſtance, let us follow the wiſdom of her example, and do ſo likewiſe.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

A *GOOD HOSTLER. Such a one coming well recommended, for diligence and ſobriety, will have good wages from*

ROBERT ANDERSON.

To be SOLD, at the late dwelling-houſe of *George Dudley*, deceaſed, in *Glouceſter* county, on *Wedneſday* the 20th of this inſtant, if fair, otherwiſe next fair day,

SUNDRY *houſehold and kitchen furniture, horſes, cattle, hogs, and ſheep; alſo ſeveral likely NEGROES. Ready money will be expected for all ſums under* 20*s. and for thoſe above* 12 *months credit will be allowed, upon giving bond and ſecurity; which, if not punctually paid, muſt carry intereſt from the date.----Thoſe who have demands againſt the eſtate of the ſaid* Dudley *are deſired to make them known, before, or on the day of ſale, to the*

THE ADMINISTRATORS.

MARCH 4, 1776.

*** *At the ſame time, and place, will be ſold for ready money, two valuable* BLACKSMITHS.

To be *SOLD* to the higheſt bidders, on Wedneſday the 27th inſtant (*March*) at the late reſidence of mr. *James Barns*, deceaſed, in *Suſſex* county,

THE *perſonal eſtate of* Richard Barns, *conſiſting of houſehold furniture, ſeveral valuable horſes (amongſt them two blooded colts) a large ſtock of cattle, hogs, and ſheep, with a conſiderable quantity of corn, fodder,* &c. *Credit will be allowed till the* 21ſt *of* December *next, the purchaſers giving bond and approved ſecurity. At the ſame time, and place, will be hired out, until the firſt day of* January *next, ſeveral* SLAVES, *belonging to the orphans of the ſaid* Barns. *Bond with approved ſecurity will be required, by*

THE EXECUTORS.

To be SOLD to the higheſt bidder, purſuant to the laſt will and teſtament of Alexander Brown, *deceaſed, at* Prince Edward *courthouſe, on* Monday *the* 13*th of* April *next, being court day,*

FOUR hundred acres of land in *Prince Edward* county, lying between *Buſh* and *Brier* rivers, and on both ſides of the main road that leads from *More's* ordinary to *Prince Edward* courthouſe. Twelve months credit will be allowed, the purchaſer giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to THE EXECUTORS.

LUNENBURG, *March* 4, 1776.

NOTICE *is hereby given, to all whom it may concern, that I ſhall ſet out ſoon for* South Carolina, *where I expect to receive ſome money, to pay my juſt debts; but ſhould that ſcheme miſcarry, I propoſe trading in horſes, between ſome parts of* North Carolina *and* Virginia, *to accompliſh this deſirable purpoſe.*

EDWARD THWEATT.

RUN away laſt *Monday* morning, a negro fellow named JACK, formerly the property of mr. *Joſeph Scrivener* of this city. He is of a yellowiſh complexion, a ſtrong luſty fellow, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, about 26 years old, and is a very good carter. He is well clad in new coat, waiſtcoat, and breeches, of red duffil, and has a new gray fearnought great coat. He is ſuppoſed to be lurking in this town, or about the *Capitol Landing*, where he was bred. Whoever apprehends the ſaid fellow, and delivers him to me, ſhall have 20s. reward, if taken near town; but if at any conſiderable diſtance, I will give 3l.

ALEX: PURDIE.

FOR SALE,

A TEAM and HORSES; alſo a young, healthy, ſtout NEGRO CARTER. For terms inquire of the printer.

CABIN POINT, *March* 2, 1776.

I WILL give good wages for a journeyman SHOEMAKER, either by the month or year, as we can agree,

(2) FRANCIS MORELAND.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

A YOUNG man, a BRICKLAYER, who is a good workman. Such a one, by coming well recommended to the ſubſcriber, living at *New Kent* courthouſe, will meet with good encouragement for all next ſeaſon.

2‖ THOMAS WARREN.

FEARNOUGHT ſtands at *Hicks's Ford*, in *Brunſwick* county, to cover mares at 40s. the ſingle cover ready money, or 5l. the ſeaſon, payable in *October* next. Good paſturage, and entertainment for gentlemens ſervants, gratis; but I will not be liable for any mares that may be ſtolen, or ſtray away.

WILLIAM EDWARDS.

TAKEN up on mr. *Alexander M'Caul's* plantation, in *Henrico* County, a bay horſe about 10 years old, 4 feet 6 inches high, which ſtray came to the ſaid plantation ſome time laſt fall, and has a ſtar in his forehead, but no perceivable brand. Poſted, and appraiſed to 9l.

TURNER SOUTHALL.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Frederick* county, *Maryland*, on the 20th ult. two *Iriſh* ſervant men, both weavers, *viz. Chriſtopher Warren*, about 5 feet 4 inches high, 35 years of age, has ſhort curled black hair, dark eyes, a very long noſe, which appears to lean to one ſide, and a few blue ſpots in his face, like ſpecks of gunpowder; had on a ſhort pale blue coat, that has been turned, double-breaſted, with black horn buttons, and a pair of brown cloth trouſers. *George Murdy*, about 20 years old, 5 feet 8 inches high, of a fair complexion, has gray eyes, and ſtraight black hair; had on two ſtriped country cloth jackets, and a pair of ſtriped country cloth breeches. They took with them two horſes, with ſaddles and bridles. One is a roan, about 14 hands high, with a black mane and tail, trots and gallops, goes dull on the road, and is branded on the near ſhoulder TLF in a piece. The other a ſmall bay, about 13 hands high, paces and gallops, ſhod before, and branded on the near ſhoulder O. Whoever takes up the ſaid ſervants and horſes, and ſecures them ſo as they may be had again, ſhall have the above reward, or a proportionable part for one or more of them.

GEORGE SEIL.

*** It is probable they may have other clothes with them, or get their own changed.

BLANDFORD, *February* 24, 1776.

THE ſubſcriber being fully empowered by meſſ. *Ramſay, Monteath*, and company, of *Glaſgow*, to tranſact all their buſineſs in this colony, formerly under the management of mr. *William Bogle*, deceaſed, and ſince under mr. *William Robertſon's* direction, earneſtly entreats all thoſe indebted to the ſaid concern to apply and have their accounts ſettled, and grant bonds, on other ſpecialties, that no diſputes may ariſe hereafter. When the preſent unhappy diſputes are at an end, and importation allowed, the ſtore will be well ſupplied with all kinds of goods, and the buſineſs carried on to the uſual extent, by

‖ THOMAS GORDON.

WARWICK, *Feb.* 20, 1776.

I PURPOSE leaving the colony ſome time in *March*. JOHN MURCHIE.

To be SOLD, or RENTED,

A TRACT of land in *Mecklenburg*, on the branches of *Blueſtone* creek and *Roanoke* river; it contains between 6 and 700 acres of very good high land, with a good plantation and ſeveral houſes thereon, which was occupied laſt year by mr. *Thacker Burwell*. For terms apply to mr. *Samuel Burks*, in *Prince Edward*. ROBERT DONALD.

WARWICK, *Feb.* 21, 1776.

WARWICK, *February* 20, 1776.

I PURPOSE leaving the colony ſoon. Thoſe to whom I am indebted, or who have any demands againſt *Archibald Lundie*, are deſired to apply for payment. Mr. *Michael Coulter*, at this place, will ſatisfy thoſe who may not make application before I go; and mr. *Samuel Burks*, in *Prince Edward*, will pay any thing that may be due by meſſ. *James* and *Robert Donald* and company.

ROBERT DONALD.

ALL perſons who have any demands againſt the eſtate of mr. *Henry Whiting*, late of the county of *Prince William*, deceaſed, are deſired to make them known to ſir *John Peyton* of *Glouceſter* county, or the ſubſcriber, and alſo in what manner they become due, that reſpect may be had to the dignity of the debts.

HUMPHREY F. WHITING, executrix.

WANTED for the army, a large number of SHOES, for which ready money will be given; and I will engage to take any quantity that can be furniſhed, throughout the year, from any part of the colony. Such perſons as can ſupply me, and are willing to engage, will meet with proper encouragement by applying to the ſubſcriber, or mr. *Wm. Armiſtead* at the regimental ſtore in *Williamſburg*.

WILLIAM AYLETT.

*** Who has for ſale a quantity of *FLOUR*, and *SHIP BREAD*. Apply as above.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 13, 1776.

COMMITTED to *James City* jail, a negro woman who calls herſelf MARY-ANNE, and ſays ſhe belongs to *Anthony Walker* at *Peterſburg*. The owner is deſired to take her away, and pay charges.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 13, 1776.

COMMITTED to *James City* jail, a negro man who ſays his name is TOM, and that he belongs to mr. *John Pride* of *Amelia*. The owner is deſired to take him away, and pay charges.

TAKEN up in *Prince George*, a white mare about 8 or 9 years old, 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, branded on the near buttock with three dots, ſhod before, and is with foal. Poſted, and appraiſed to 12l. 10s. BETHIA RIVES.

TAKEN up in *Prince George*, a cheſtnut ſorrel mare about 10 or 11 years old, 4 feet 10 or 11 inches high, her hind feet white, a ſtar in her forehead, a ſnip on her noſe, a ſear over her left eye, three ſaddle ſpots, and ſhod all round. Poſted, and appraiſed to 25l.

BETHIA RIVES.

TAKEN up at my plantation in *Cheſterfield*, three HOGS, *viz.* two barrows, and one ſpayed ſow, white ſandied, with ſome black ſpots, the upper ſide of the right ear half cropped, the left a ſmooth crop.

FRANCIS EPPES.

TAPPAHANNOCK, *February* 17, 1776.

WANTED immediately, to ſucceed *John Whitlock* in the tavern kept by him, a man bred to that buſineſs, to whom good encouragement will be given by the ſubſcriber. None but ſuch as come well recommended, for honeſty, ſobriety, induſtry, and complaiſance, need to apply. A ſingle man would be acceptable; but ſhould a man who has a careful wife, that will not think it below her dignity to ſuperintend the affairs of the kitchen, and bedchambers, even if there be a child or two, it will be no unſurmountable objection.

ARCHIBALD RITCHIE.

To be RENTED,

THE SWAN TAVERN in the town of *Falmouth*, which may be entered upon in *April* next. For farther particulars inquire of the ſubſcriber, or proprietor in ſaid town. WILLIAM SMITH.

FREDERICKSBURG, *Feb.* 14, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony ſoon, for a few moths. In my abſence, mr. *James Blair* will tranſact the buſineſs of *Heſlop & Blair*, to whom I requeſt all thoſe indebted to the ſtore, or otherwiſe, will make as ſpeedy payment as poſſible; and thoſe who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, I hope, will not be backward in ſettling their accounts, by bond, or other ſpecialties.

‖ DAVID BLAIR.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 21, 1776.

STRAYED, or STOLEN, from capt. *Buford's* company at *Hampton*, about the middle of laſt *December*, a bay gelding about 15 hands and a half high, has a ſtar in his forehead, his hind feet white, and a few white hairs in his flank, without any brand. Whoever brings him to me, in this city, ſhall be well rewarded.

JOHN H. NORTON.

To be SOLD,

THE plantation where I now live, containing 320 acres of land, about three miles above *Peterſburg*, whereon is a large new brick dwelling-houſe 54 feet by 32, with four rooms, and a flush paſſage, below ſtairs, and five rooms above, very commodiouſly contrived, and the building well executed, a brick kitchen 32 feet by 16, two rooms below, and two above ſtairs, with all other neceſſary offices, in good repair, and ſeveral orchards of the beſt kind of fruit trees. This ſeat being well known, I think a more accurate deſcription unneceſſary. The time of payment will be made eaſy to the purchaſer, and the terms known by applying to mr. *Thomas Ruffin*, or

(tf) ROBERT NEWSUM.

MECKLENBURG county, *Jan.* 1776.

THE ſubſcriber, from long experience, being fully convinced that the truſting plantations and ſlaves to the management of a ſet of people calling themſelves *overſeers*, will never produce any thing but ruin and deſtruction, is therefore determined to draw the management of what few ſlaves he poſſeſſes within the compaſs of his own perſonal abilities in looking over them, and, by this determination, has, and will have by next fall, between 20 and 30 very beautiful tenements, with a plantation to each, to rent out, either for a ſingle year, or term of years, and can ſupply the tenants with corn, wheat, fodder, and ſtock of all kinds.

Any woman of good character, who underſtands houſe-keeping, teaching young children to read, girls the ſempſtreſs buſineſs, embroidering, *&c.* and comes well recommended, ſhall meet with very agreeable and ſatisfactory encouragement by applying to

(tf) MATTHEW MARABLE.

ARTICLES of Intelligence, Eſſays, Advertiſements, *&c.* are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*ſ.* 6*d.* per Annum; Advertiſements inſerted as uſual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reaſonable Terms.

FRIDAY, March 8, 1776. } SUPPLEMENT. No. 58.

A DIALOGUE between the GHOST of general MONTGOMERY *and a* DELEGATE, *in a wood near Philadelphia.*

Delegate. WELCOME to this retreat, my good friend. If I miſtake not, I now ſee the ghoſt of the brave general Montgomery.

General Montgomery. I am glad to ſee you. I ſtill love liberty and America, and the contemplation of the future greatneſs of this continent now forms a large ſhare of my preſent happineſs. I am ſent here upon an important errand, to warn you againſt liſtening to terms of accommodation from the court of Britain.

Del. I ſhall be happy in receiving inſtruction from you, in the preſent trying exigency of our publick affairs. But ſuppoſe the terms you ſpeak of ſhould be juſt and honourable.

Gen. Mont. How can you expect theſe after the king has proclaimed you rebels from the throne, and after both houſes of parliament have reſolved to ſupport him in carrying on a war againſt you? No, I ſee no offers from Great Britain but of *pardon*. The very word is an inſult upon our cauſe. To whom is pardon offered? To virtuous freemen. For what? For flying to arms in defence of the rights of humanity. And from whom do theſe offers come? From a *royal criminal*. You have furniſhed me with a new reaſon for triumphing in my death, for I had rather have it ſaid that I died by his vengeance than that I lived by his mercy.

Del. But you think nothing of the deſtructive conſequences of war. How many cities muſt be reduced to aſhes, how many families muſt be ruined, and how many widows and orphans muſt be made, ſhould the preſent war be continued any longer with Great Britain!

Gen. Mont. I think of nothing but of the deſtructive conſequences of ſlavery. The calamities of war are tranſitory, and confined in their effects; but the calamities of ſlavery are extenſive, and laſting in their operation. I love mankind as well as you, and I could never reſtrain a tear when my love of juſtice has obliged me to ſhed the blood of a fellow creature. It is my humanity that makes me urge you againſt a reconciliation with Great Britain; for if this takes place, nothing can prevent the American colonies from being the ſeat of war as often as the king of Great Britain renews his quarrels with any of the colonies, or with any of the belligerant powers of Europe.

Del. I tremble at the doctrine you have advanced. I ſee you are for the independence of the colonies on Great Britain.

Gen. Mont. I am for permanent liberty, peace, and ſecurity to the American colonies.

Del. Theſe can only be maintained by placing the colonies in the ſituation they were in the year 1763.

Gen. Mont. And is no ſatisfaction to be made to the colonies for the blood and treaſure they have expended in reſiſting the arms of Great Britain? Who can ſoften the prejudices of the king, the parliament, and the nation, each of whom will be averſe to maintain a peace with you in proportion to the advantages you have gained over them? Who ſhall make reſtitution to the widows, the mothers, and the children, of the men who were ſlain by their arms? Can no hand wield the ſceptre of government in America, except that which has been ſtained with the blood of your countrymen? For my part, if I thought this continent would ever acknowledge the ſovereignty of the crown of Britain again, I ſhould for ever lament the day in which I offered up my life for its ſalvation.

Del. You ſhould diſtinguiſh between the king and his miniſters.

Gen. Mont. I live in a world where all political ſuperſtition is done away. The king is the author of all the meaſures carried on againſt America. The influence of bad miniſters is no better apology for theſe meaſures than the influence of bad company is for a murderer, who expiates his crimes under a gallows. You all complain of the corruption of the parliament, and of the venality of the nation, and yet you forget that the crown is the ſource of them both. You ſhun the ſtreams, and yet you are willing to ſit down at the very fountain, of corruption and venality.

Del. Our diſtance and charters will protect us from the influence of the crown.

Gen. Mont. Your diſtance will only render your danger more imminent, and your ruin more irretrievable. Charters are no reſtraints againſt the luſt of power. The only reaſon why you have eſcaped ſo long is, becauſe the treaſure of the nation has been employed for theſe fifty years in buying up the virtue of Britain and Ireland. Hereafter, the ſeduction of the repreſentatives of the people of America will be the only aim of adminiſtration, ſhould you continue to be connected with them.

Del. But I foreſee many evils from the independence of the colonies. Our trade will be ruined, from the want of a navy to protect it. Each colony will put in its claim for ſuperiority, and we ſhall have domeſtick wars without end.

Gen. Mont. As I know that Divine Providence intends this country to be the aſylum of perſecuted virtue, from every quarter of the globe, ſo I think your trade will be the vehicle that will convey it to you. Heaven has furniſhed you with greater reſources for a navy than any nation in the world. Nothing but an ignorance of your ſtrength could have led you to ſacrifice your trade for the protection of a foreign navy. A freedom from the reſtraints of the acts of navigation, I foreſee, will produce ſuch immenſe additions to the wealth of this country, that poſterity will wonder that ever you thought your preſent trade worth its protection. As to the ſuppoſed contentions between ſiſter colonies, they have no foundation in truth; but, ſuppoſing they have, will delaying the independence of the colonies fifty years prevent them? No; the weakneſs of the colonies, which at firſt produced their union, will always preſerve it, till it ſhall be their intereſt to be ſeparated. Had the colony of Maſſachuſetts Bay been poſſeſſed of the military reſources which it would probably have had fifty years hence, would ſhe have held out the ſignal of diſtreſs to her ſiſter colonies, upon the news of the Boſton port bill? No; ſhe would have withſtood all the power of Britain alone, and afterwards the neutral colonies might have ſhared the fate of the colony of Canada. Moreover, had the connection with Great Britain been continued fifty years longer, the progreſs of Britiſh laws, cuſtoms, and manners (now totally corrupted) would have been ſuch, that the colonies would have been prepared to welcome ſlavery; but had it been otherwiſe, they muſt have aſſerted their independence with arms. This is nearly done already. It will be cruel to bequeath another conteſt to your poſterity.

Del. But I dread all innovations in governments. They are very dangerous things.

Gen. Mont. The Revolution, which gave a temporary ſtability to the liberties of Britain, was an innovation in government, and yet no ill conſequences have ariſen from it. Innovations are dangerous, only as they ſhake the prejudices of a people; but there are now, I believe, but few prejudices to be found, in this country, in favour of the old connexion with Great Britain. I except thoſe men, only, who are under the influence of their paſſions and offices.

Del. But is it not moſt natural for us to wiſh for a connexion with a people who ſpeak the ſame language with us, and poſſeſs the ſame laws, religion, and forms of government, with ourſelves?

Gen. Mont. The immortal Monteſquieu ſays, that nations ſhould form alliances with thoſe nations only which are as unlike to themſelves as poſſible in religion, laws, and manners, if they mean to preſerve their own conſtitutions. Your dependence upon the crown is no advantage, but rather an injury, to the people of Britain, as it increaſes the power and influence of the king. The people are benefited only by your trade, and this they may have after you are independent of the crown. Should you be diſpoſed to forgive the king and the nation for attempting to enſlave you, they will never forgive you for having baffled them in the attempt.

Del. But we have many friends in both houſes of parliament.

Gen. Mont. You mean the miniſtry have many enemies in parliament who connect the cauſe of America with their clamours at the door of adminiſtration. Lord Chatham's conciliatory bill would have ruined you more effectually than lord North's motion. The marquis of Rockingham was the author of the declaratory bill. Mr. Wilkes has added infamy to the weakneſs of your cauſe; and the duke of Grafton, and lord Lyttleton, have rendered the minority junto, if poſſible, more contemptible than ever.

Del. But if we become independent, we ſhall become a commonwealth.

Gen. Mont. I maintain, that it is your intereſt to be independent of Great Britain, but I do not recommend any new form of government to you. I ſhould think it ſtrange that a people who have virtue enough to defend themſelves againſt the moſt powerful nation in the world ſhould want wiſdom to contrive a perfect and free form of government. You have been kept in ſubjection to the crown of Britain by a miracle. Your liberties have hitherto been ſuſpended by a thread. Your connexion with Great Britain is unnatural, and unneceſſary. All the wheels of a government ſhould move within itſelf. I would only beg leave to obſerve to you, that monarchy and ariſtocracy have, in all ages, been the vehicles of ſlavery.

Del. Our governments will want force and authority, if we become independent of Great Britain.

Gen. Mont. I beg leave to contradict that aſſertion. No royal edicts, or acts of aſſembly, have ever been more faithfully or univerſally obeyed than the reſolves of the Congreſs. I admire the virtue of the colonies; and did not ſome of them ſtill hang upon the haggard breaſts of Great Britain, I ſhould think the time now come in which they had virtue enough to be happy under any form of government. Remember, that it is in a commonwealth only that you can expect to find every man a patriot or a hero. Ariſtides, Epaminondas, Pericles, Scipio, Camillus, and a thouſand other illuſtrious Grecian and Roman heroes, would never have aſtoniſhed the world with their names, had they lived under royal governments.

Del. Will not a declaration of independence leſſen the number of our friends, and increaſe the rage of our enemies in Britain?

Gen. Mont. Your friends (as you call them) are too few, too divided, and too interested, to help you; and as for your enemies, they have done their worſt. They have called upon Ruſſians, Hanoverians, Heſſians, Canadians, ſavages, and negroes, to aſſiſt them in burning your towns, deſolating your country, and in butchering your wives and children. You have nothing farther to fear from them. Go, then, and awaken the Congreſs to a ſenſe of their importance; you have no time to loſe. France waits for nothing but a declaration of your independence to revenge the injuries they ſuſtained from Britain in the laſt war. But I forbear to reaſon any farther with you. The decree is finally gone forth: Britain and America are now diſtinct empires. Your country teems with patriots, heroes, and legiſlators, who are impatient to burſt forth into light and importance. Hereafter, your atchievments ſhall no more ſwell the page of Britiſh hiſtory. God did not excite the attention of all Europe, of the whole world, nay of angels themſelves, to the preſent controverſy, for nothing. The inhabitants of heaven long to ſee the ark finiſhed in which all the liberty and true religion of the world are to be depoſited. The day in which the colonies declare their independence will be a jubilee to Hampden, Sidney, Ruſſell, Warren, Gardiner, Macpherſon, and the other heroes who have offered themſelves as ſacrifices upon the altar of liberty. It was no ſmall mortification to me, when I fell upon the plains of Abraham, to reflect that I did not expire like the brave general Wolfe, in the arms of victory? But I now no longer envy him his glory. I would rather die in *attempting* to obtain permanent freedom for a handful of people than ſurvive a conqueſt which would ſerve only to extend the empire of deſpotiſm. A band of heroes now beckon to me. I can only add, that America is the theatre where human nature will *ſoon* receive its greateſt military, civil, and literary honours.

Extract from a paper publiſhed in the Pennſylvania Packet, *addreſſed* To all parents in the 13 United Colonies.

LOOK to the year 1763, that happy period, as many ſo fondly call it, and ſee what ſafety there is to America in ſuch a ſituation. Lord North has ſaid, "if that is all they want, we are agreed;" and the ſaying pleaſes many of you. His lordſhip, like others who have learned wiſdom by experience, wiſhes to have all to begin again, believing that he could more eaſily effect his purpoſe by other means than thoſe he is at preſent purſuing. Swallow the bait, and you are undone for ever.

Can any man in his ſenſes believe that he who has ſo long and ſo invariably purſued his point, againſt the ſenſe of the beſt men in the nation, will finally deſert his maſter's moſt favourite ſcheme ſo eaſily? Has he uttered a ſingle ſyllable that can make the moſt credulous believe that he is convinced of the injuſtice of his conduct? He confeſſes he was deceived, but wherein lay the deception? In believing that fewer troops would effect a ſubmiſſion than he is now convinced muſt be employed. Here lay the deception he complains of, and he is therefore determined to ſend his terms with ſuch an armed force as he expects will frighten you into a compliance. Does this look like the conduct of one who deſigns to relinquiſh his claims? Were he or his maſter ſenſible of the injuſtice of their proceedings, and the wrongs they have done us, they would both ſpeak a very different language. Why does he call you rebels? Why call in foreign troops to his aid? Why does his maſter lament ſo pathetically that the extenſive operations of the war he means to carry on againſt you will exhauſt his funds, and increaſe the publick debts, while he has not a ſingle tear to ſhed, not a groan, nor as much as a ſigh, for all the blood he has already ſpilt, and yet means to ſpill, if he wiſhes to allow you ſecurity to your privileges? Oh! George, the day thou utteredſt that ſentiment, in the face of the ſun, thou gaveſt up all title to humanity: "Among the many unavoidable ill conſequences of this rebellion, "none affects me more ſenſibly (ſays "the king) than the extraordinary bur-"then it muſt create to my faithful ſubjects." Moſt humane prince! moſt pious ſovereign! moſt affectionate father of thy people! An addition to the Britiſh ſubjects burthens, to obtain a moſt unrighteous purpoſe of thy own, affects thee, in order to reconcile them to the bearing of it; but to ſpill the blood of thy oppreſſed American ſubjects diſturbs not thy guiltleſs conſcience! Let me tell thee, O king, that there is a God who ſees through the veil that covers thy deceit, and who hears the cry of the needy, and regards the prayer of the diſtreſſed, who will recompenſe vengeance on the wicked, though ſupported by the power of Great Britain. Our weakneſs is ſufficient, in his hands, for the purpoſe. If thine and thy miniſters intentions are not evil againſt us, why didſt thou not hearken to the repeated prayers of thy diſtreſſed ſubjects in America? Why doſt thou not recall thy troops, repeal the acts, indemnity us for what we have ſuffered, and offer any farther ſecurity to our rights which we may think neceſſary? Thou beganneſt the attack, and this is thy duty. Beſides, thou haſt an obedient parliament, which diſputes not thy will; and all this is in thy power, and in no one's elſe. Had the king made a ſpeech to the Houſe recommending theſe things, he would have given unequivocal proof of his honeſt intentions, and it might juſtly be termed gracious; but who can truſt a prince who, while he ſpeaks the language of peace and humanity with his lips, has nothing but cruelty and war in his conduct? The man who does may have the innocence of the dove, but he cannot be poſſeſſed of the wiſdom of the ſerpent. I conclude, by entreating you, that as you love your children, and their happineſs, you never deſert your preſent oppoſition, until you obtain ſuch a plan of conſtitutional vigour as ſhall put it at all times in your power to ſecure yourſelves, and your deſcendents, from tyrannical encroachments. This you never had, nor never can have on the plan of your former dependence. Remember, I call the deity to witneſs that I have warned you againſt deſtroying your offſpring, and praying you to be on your guard againſt the ſnares of the inſidious. May he who acts from a principle of humanity and benevolence to mankind finally meet with ſucceſs, and may the ſchemes of hypocrites be blaſted.

At a committee held for King William *county, the 26th day of Feb.* 1776.

CAPTAIN Benjamin Temple having informed this committee, that a report has been propagated much to his prejudice, reſpecting his conduct as to the raiſing of men in this county for the minute ſervice:

Ordered, at the inſtance of ſaid Temple, that it is the unanimous opinion of this committee, that he hath uſed every effort and endeavour in his power, as far as they know or believe, towards the promotion of ſaid ſervice, and are fully convinced that every ſuch report is without a juſt foundation.

Ordered, that a copy of the above reſolution be tranſmitted to the publick printer of this colony, who is requeſted to put the ſame in the Virginia Gazette.

JOHN WATKINS, clerk.

SURRY county, *February* 5, 1776.

AT a meeting of the freeholders of the ſaid county, at the courthouſe, agreeable to an ordinance of the laſt Convention, the following gentlemen were choſen to ſerve as a committee for the ſaid county:

William Hart.	*Benjamin Putney.*
Allen Cocke.	*James Kee.*
William Brown.	*John Cocke.*
William Clinch.	*John Watkins.*
N. Faulcon, jun.	*Willis Wilſon.*
Etheldred Gray.	*William Hamlin.*
Charles Judkins.	*Henry Howard.*
John Cocke, jun.	*William Nelſon.*
John Watkins, jun.	*Lemuel Cocke.*
John H. Cocke.	Rev. *B. Blagrove.*
William Simmons.	

In COMMITTEE, *February* 6, 1776.

ALLEN COCKE, gent. was unanimouſly choſen chairman of the ſaid committee, and *John Weſſon* clerk thereof.

Reſolved, that the clerk of this committee do tranſmit a copy hereof to the publick printer, to be publiſhed in his Gazette.

JOHN WESSON, clerk.

At a committee held for Surry *county, at mr.* Francis Moreland's, *on* Monday *the* 19*th of* February, 1776.

ORDERED, that no perſon, or perſons, remove, from any landing in this county, any commodity, of any kind whatſoever, without firſt obtaining a permit ſigned by three of the members of this committee for removing the ſame; and that the clerk of this committee do tranſmit a copy of this order to mr. *Purdie*, to be publiſhed in his paper.

JOHN WESSON, clerk.

IN COMMITTEE,

Held for Charlotte *county*, January 30, 1776.

THE rev. Thomas Johnſton preſented the following conceſſions to this committee, expreſſing his contrition for his former behaviour; which were approved, and ordered to be publiſhed in the Virginia Gazette, viz.

GENTLEMEN,

MY having drank ſucceſs to the Britiſh arms, in company with mrs. Tankerſly and mr. Edmund Read, as well as having continued to deal with mr. M'Connico, a then violator of the aſſociation, which gave offence to the good people of this country in general, and to you in particular, gives me real concern. However, I ſolemnly declare it was done inadvertently. All my dependence, my neareſt and deareſt connexions, are in this country; and I expect to ſhare with the Americans in the preſent unhappy conteſt, whether the event proves good or bad. If the moſt unfeigned ſorrow for having made uſe of an unguarded expreſſion, joined to the moſt determined reſolution of promoting the intereſt, happineſs, and proſperity of America (according to the beſt of my power and capacity) can obtain your forgiveneſs, I ſhall then think myſelf extremely happy in being re-eſtabliſhed in the good graces of my country.

THOMAS JOHNSTON.

Mr. ALEX: PURDIE,

SIR,

PLEASE to inſert the above in your paper, at the requeſt of the committee of Charlotte.

By order of the committee,

WILLIAM JAMESON, clerk.

Mr. PURDIE,

WE have a hard alternative, either to be *ſlaves*, or to *fight for independence*. But who can heſitate in the choice? Why ſhould we ſhudder at the thoughts of a *perpetual independence?* Have the *Dutch* repented, or the *Swiſs*, that they *ſhook off the yoke of their tyrants?* If even *my father*, after my *dutiful deprecations*, ſhould *ſtill reſolve to enſlave me*, I would think that he had *broken an original contract*, and had *abdicated his paternal authority*.

PHIL-AMERICUS.